

Substitute Bill No. 357

February Session, 2014



## AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO ENERGY STATUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 16a-48 of the 2014 supplement to
- 2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 4 (g) Manufacturers of any new products set forth in subsection (b) of
- 5 this section [or designated by the Commissioner of Energy and
- Environmental Protection for which (1) no efficiency standards exist 6
- in California, and (2) the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental 7
- 8 Protection adopts efficiency standards, shall certify
- 9 commissioner that such products are in compliance with the
- 10 provisions of this section, except that certification is not required for
- 11 single voltage external AC to DC power supplies and walk-in
- 12 refrigerators and walk-in freezers. All single voltage external AC to DC
- 13 power supplies shall be labeled as described in the January 2006
- 14 California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Section 1607 (9). The
- 15 commissioner shall promulgate regulations governing the certification
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- of such products. The commissioner shall publish an annual list of
- 17 [such] any new products set forth in subsection (b) of this section on
- 18 the department's Internet web site that designates which such products
- 19 are certified in California and which such products not certified in
- 20 California have demonstrated compliance with efficiency standards

- 21 <u>adopted by the commissioner pursuant to subparagraph (B) of</u> 22 subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of this section.
- Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) NuPower Thermal, LLC, with such persons that shall be associated with it and each other for that purpose, are constituted a body politic and corporate by the name of "The Bridgeport Thermal Limited Liability Company" and shall constitute a thermal energy transportation company, as defined in subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes.
- 29 (b) The Bridgeport Thermal Limited Liability Company shall be 30 located in the city of Bridgeport.
  - (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general statute or any special act, The Bridgeport Thermal Limited Liability Company is authorized and empowered either directly or through the agency of its parent, a subsidiary or an affiliate: (1) To furnish from a plant or plants located in the city of Bridgeport, heat or air conditioning or both, by means of hot or chilled water or other medium; (2) to lay, install and maintain mains, pipes or other conduits, and to erect such other fixtures and improvements as are or may be necessary or convenient in and on the streets, highways and public grounds of said city or other public highways and rights-of-way, for the purpose of carrying heated or chilled water or other medium from such plant or plants to the locations to be served and returning the same; and (3) to lease to one or more corporations or limited liability companies formed under the general law or specially chartered for the purpose of furnishing heat or air conditioning, or both, one or more of such plants or distribution systems, or both, owned by it and constructed or adapted for either or both of such purposes.
    - (d) The amount of authorized membership units of The Bridgeport Thermal Limited Liability Company and the required capital contribution of each member shall be determined by the members of said limited liability company in its operating agreement.

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- 52 (e) The duration of The Bridgeport Thermal Limited Liability 53 Company shall be unlimited.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 16a-40g of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 57 (a) As used in this section:
- 58 (1) "Energy improvements" means (A) participation in a district 59 heating and cooling system by qualifying commercial real property, 60 (B) participation in a microgrid, as defined in section 16-243y, 61 including any related infrastructure for such microgrid, by qualifying 62 commercial real property, provided such microgrid and any related infrastructure incorporate clean energy, as defined in section 16-245n, 63 64 as amended by this act, (C) any renovation or retrofitting of qualifying 65 commercial real property to reduce energy consumption, [(C)] (D) installation of a renewable energy system to service qualifying 66 67 commercial real property, or [(D)] (E) installation of a solar thermal or 68 geothermal system to service qualifying commercial real property, 69 provided such renovation, retrofit or installation described in 70 subparagraph [(B),] (C), [or] (D) or (E) of this subdivision is 71 permanently fixed to such qualifying commercial real property;
- 72 (2) "District heating and cooling system" means a local system
  73 consisting of a pipeline or network providing hot water, chilled water
  74 or steam from one or more sources to multiple buildings;
- 75 (3) "Qualifying commercial real property" means any commercial or 76 industrial property, regardless of ownership, that meets the 77 qualifications established for the commercial sustainable energy 78 program;
- 79 (4) "Commercial or industrial property" means any real property 80 other than a residential dwelling containing less than five dwelling 81 units;

- (5) "Benefited property owner" means an owner of qualifying commercial real property who desires to install energy improvements and provides free and willing consent to the benefit assessment against the qualifying commercial real property;
- 6 (6) "Commercial sustainable energy program" means a program that facilitates energy improvements and utilizes the benefit assessments authorized by this section as security for the financing of the energy improvements;
- 90 (7) "Municipality" means a municipality, as defined in section 7-369;
- 91 (8) "Benefit assessment" means the assessment authorized by this 92 section;
  - (9) "Participating municipality" means a municipality that has entered into a written agreement, as approved by its legislative body, with the authority pursuant to which the municipality has agreed to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the authority in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within such municipality and costs reasonably incurred in performing such duties; and
  - (10) "Authority" means the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank.
- 102 Sec. 4. (Effective from passage) Not later than January 1, 2015, the 103 Connecticut Green Bank shall submit a report, in accordance with the 104 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing 105 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 106 relating to energy. Such report shall assess the potential success and 107 need for a residential property assessed clean energy program, 108 including, but not limited to, an evaluation of (1) potential consistency 109 between such a program and the commercial property assessed clean 110 energy program, as described in section 16a-40g of the general statutes, 111 as amended by this act, and similar programs on the national level, (2) 112 the legal framework for a residential property assessed clean energy

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- program, and (3) the need for such a program, in light of similar current or developing programs at the state or federal level.
- 115 Sec. 5. Section 16-245n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) For purposes of this section, "clean energy" means solar 117 118 photovoltaic energy, solar thermal, geothermal energy, wind, ocean thermal energy, wave or tidal energy, fuel cells, landfill gas, 119 120 hydropower that meets the low-impact standards of the Low-Impact 121 Hydropower Institute, hydrogen production and hydrogen conversion 122 technologies, low emission advanced biomass conversion technologies, 123 alternative fuels, used for electricity generation including ethanol, 124 biodiesel or other fuel produced in Connecticut and derived from 125 agricultural produce, food waste or waste vegetable oil, provided the 126 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection determines 127 that such fuels provide net reductions in greenhouse gas emissions 128 and fossil fuel consumption, usable electricity from combined heat and 129 power systems with waste heat recovery systems, thermal storage 130 systems, other energy resources and emerging technologies which 131 have significant potential for commercialization and which do not 132 involve the combustion of coal, petroleum or petroleum products, 133 municipal solid waste or nuclear fission, financing of energy efficiency 134 projects, projects that seek to deploy electric, electric hybrid, natural 135 gas or alternative fuel vehicles and associated infrastructure, any 136 related storage, distribution, manufacturing technologies or facilities 137 and any Class I renewable energy source, as defined in section 16-1.
  - (b) On and after July 1, 2004, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall assess or cause to be assessed a charge of not less than one mill per kilowatt hour charged to each end use customer of electric services in this state which shall be deposited into the Clean Energy Fund established under subsection (c) of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, receipts from such charges shall be disbursed to the resources of the General Fund during the period from July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2005, unless the authority shall, on or before

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October 30, 2003, issue a financing order for each affected distribution company in accordance with sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, to sustain funding of renewable energy investment programs by substituting an equivalent amount, as determined by the authority in such financing order, of proceeds of rate reduction bonds for disbursement to the resources of the General Fund during the period from July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2005. The authority may authorize in such financing order the issuance of rate reduction bonds that substitute for disbursement to the General Fund for receipts of both charges under this subsection and subsection (a) of section 16-245m and also may in its discretion authorize the issuance of rate reduction bonds under this subsection and subsection (a) of section 16-245m that relate to more than one electric distribution company. The authority shall, in such financing order or other appropriate order, offset any increase in the competitive transition assessment necessary to pay principal, premium, if any, interest and expenses of the issuance of such rate reduction bonds by making an equivalent reduction to the charges imposed under this subsection, provided any failure to offset all or any portion of such increase in the competitive transition assessment shall not affect the need to implement the full amount of such increase as required by this subsection and sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive. Such financing order shall also provide if the rate reduction bonds are not issued, any unrecovered funds expended and committed by the electric distribution companies for renewable resource investment through deposits into the Clean Energy Fund, provided such expenditures were approved by the authority following August 20, 2003, and prior to the date of determination that the rate reduction bonds cannot be issued, shall be recovered by the companies from their respective competitive transition assessment or systems benefits charge, except that such expenditures shall not exceed one million dollars per month. All receipts from the remaining charges imposed under this subsection, after reduction of such charges to offset the increase in the competitive transition assessment as provided in this subsection, shall be disbursed to the Clean Energy Fund commencing as of July 1, 2003. Any increase in the competitive transition

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assessment or decrease in the renewable energy investment component of an electric distribution company's rates resulting from the issuance of or obligations under rate reduction bonds shall be included as rate adjustments on customer bills.

(c) There is hereby created a Clean Energy Fund which shall be within the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank. The fund may receive any amount required by law to be deposited into the fund and may receive any federal funds as may become available to the state for clean energy investments. Upon authorization of the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority | Connecticut Green Bank established pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, any amount in said fund may be used for expenditures that promote investment in clean energy in accordance with a comprehensive plan developed by it to foster the growth, development and commercialization of clean energy sources, related enterprises and stimulate demand for clean energy and deployment of clean energy sources that serve end use customers in this state and for the further purpose of supporting operational demonstration projects for advanced technologies that reduce energy use from traditional sources. Such expenditures may include, but not be limited to, providing low-cost financing and credit enhancement mechanisms for clean energy projects and technologies, reimbursement of the operating expenses, including administrative expenses incurred by the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank and Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, and capital costs incurred by the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank in connection with the operation of the fund, the implementation of the plan developed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section or the other permitted activities of the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank, disbursements from the fund to develop and carry out the plan developed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, grants, direct or equity investments, contracts or other actions which support research, development, manufacture, commercialization,

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- deployment and installation of clean energy technologies, and actions which expand the expertise of individuals, businesses and lending institutions with regard to clean energy technologies.
- 218 (d) (1) (A) There is established the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank, which shall be within 219 220 Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, for administrative purposes 221 only. The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] 222 Connecticut Green Bank is hereby established and created as a body 223 politic and corporate, constituting a public instrumentality and 224 political subdivision of the state of Connecticut established and created 225 for the performance of an essential public and governmental function. 226 The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut 227 Green Bank shall not be construed to be a department, institution or 228 agency of the state.
  - (B) The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank shall (i) develop separate programs to finance and otherwise support clean energy investment in residential, municipal, small business and larger commercial projects and such others as the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank may determine; (ii) support financing or other expenditures that promote investment in clean energy sources in accordance with a comprehensive plan developed by it to foster the growth, development and commercialization of clean energy sources and related enterprises; and (iii) stimulate demand for clean energy and the deployment of clean energy sources within the state that serve end-use customers in the state.
  - (C) The Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority shall constitute a successor agency to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, for the purposes of administering the Clean Energy Fund in accordance with section 4-38d. The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank shall constitute a successor agency to the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority for purposes of administering the Clean Energy Fund in

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248 accordance with section 4-38d. The Connecticut Green Bank shall have 249 all the privileges, immunities, tax exemptions and other exemptions of 250 Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, with respect to said fund. The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green 252 Bank shall be subject to suit and liability solely from the assets, 253 revenues and resources of said [authority] bank and without recourse 254 to the general funds, revenues, resources or other assets of Connecticut 255 Innovations, Incorporated. The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment 256 Authority] Connecticut Green Bank may provide financial assistance 257 in the form of grants, loans, loan guarantees or debt and equity 258 investments, as approved in accordance with written procedures 259 adopted pursuant to section 1-121. The [Clean Energy Finance and 260 Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank may assume or take 261 title to any real property, convey or dispose of its assets and pledge its 262 revenues to secure any borrowing, convey or dispose of its assets and 263 pledge its revenues to secure any borrowing, for the purpose of 264 developing, acquiring, constructing, refinancing, rehabilitating or 265 improving its assets or supporting its programs, provided each such 266 borrowing or mortgage, unless otherwise provided by the board or 267 said [authority] bank, shall be a special obligation of said [authority] 268 <u>bank</u>, which obligation may be in the form of bonds, bond anticipation 269 notes or other obligations which evidence an indebtedness to the 270 extent permitted under this chapter to fund, refinance and refund the 271 same and provide for the rights of holders thereof, and to secure the 272 same by pledge of revenues, notes and mortgages of others, and which 273 shall be payable solely from the assets, revenues and other resources of 274 said [authority] bank and such bonds may be secured by a special 275 capital reserve fund contributed to by the state. The [Clean Energy 276 Finance and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank shall have 277 the purposes as provided by resolution of said [authority's] bank's 278 board of directors, which purposes shall be consistent with this section. 279 No further action is required for the establishment of the [Clean 280 Energy Finance and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank, except the adoption of a resolution for said [authority] bank.

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- (2) (A) The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority]
  Connecticut Green Bank may seek to qualify as a Community
  Development Financial Institution under Section 4702 of the United
  States Code. If approved as a Community Development Financial
  Institution, said [authority] bank would be treated as a qualified
  community development entity for purposes of Section 45D and
  Section 1400N(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (B) Before making any loan, loan guarantee, or such other form of financing support or risk management for a clean energy project, the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank shall develop standards to govern the administration of said [authority] bank through rules, policies and procedures that specify borrower eligibility, terms and conditions of support, and other relevant criteria, standards or procedures.
- 296 (C) Funding sources specifically authorized include, but are not 297 limited to:
- 298 (i) Funds repurposed from existing programs providing financing 299 support for clean energy projects, provided any transfer of funds from 300 such existing programs shall be subject to approval by the General 301 Assembly and shall be used for expenses of financing, grants and 302 loans;
- 303 (ii) Any federal funds that can be used for the purposes specified in 304 subsection (c) of this section;
- 305 (iii) Charitable gifts, grants, contributions as well as loans from 306 individuals, corporations, university endowments and philanthropic 307 foundations;
- (iv) Earnings and interest derived from financing support activities for clean energy projects backed by the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] <u>Connecticut Green Bank</u>;
- 311 (v) If and to the extent that the [Clean Energy Finance and

- 312 Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank qualifies as a
- 313 Community Development Financial Institution under Section 4702 of
- 314 the United States Code, funding from the Community Development
- 315 Financial Institution Fund administered by the United States
- 316 Department of Treasury, as well as loans from and investments by
- 317 depository institutions seeking to comply with their obligations under
- 318 the United States Community Reinvestment Act of 1977; and
- 319 (vi) The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority]
- 320 Connecticut Green Bank may enter into contracts with private sources
- 321 to raise capital. The average rate of return on such debt or equity shall
- 322 be set by the board of directors of said [authority] bank.
- 323 (D) The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority]
- 324 Connecticut Green Bank may provide financing support under this
- 325 subsection if said [authority] bank determines that the amount to be
- 326 financed by said [authority] bank and other nonequity financing
- 327 sources do not exceed eighty per cent of the cost to develop and
- 328 deploy a clean energy project or up to one hundred per cent of the cost
- 329 of financing an energy efficiency project.
- 330 (E) The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority]
- 331 Connecticut Green Bank may assess reasonable fees on its financing
- 332 activities to cover its reasonable costs and expenses, as determined by
- 333 the board.
- 334 The [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority]
- 335 Connecticut Green Bank shall make information regarding the rates,
- 336 terms and conditions for all of its financing support transactions
- 337 available to the public for inspection, including formal annual reviews
- 338 by both a private auditor conducted pursuant to subdivision (2) of
- 339 subsection (f) of this section and the Comptroller, and providing
- 340 details to the public on the Internet, provided public disclosure shall be
- 341 restricted for patentable ideas, trade secrets, proprietary or confidential
- 342 commercial or financial information, disclosure of which may cause
- 343 commercial harm to a nongovernmental recipient of such financing

- support and for other information exempt from public records disclosure pursuant to section 1-210.
- 346 (3) No director, officer, employee or agent of the [Clean Energy 347 Finance and Investment Authority] <u>Connecticut Green Bank</u>, while 348 acting within the scope of his or her authority, shall be subject to any 349 personal liability resulting from exercising or carrying out any of the 350 [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority's] <u>Connecticut Green 351 Bank's</u> purposes or powers.
  - (e) The powers of the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank shall be vested in and exercised by a board of directors, which shall consist of eleven voting and two nonvoting members each with knowledge and expertise in matters related to the purpose and activities of said [authority] bank appointed follows: The Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee, Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee and the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the commissioner's designee, each serving ex officio, one member who shall represent a residential or low-income group appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives for a term of four years, one member who shall have experience in investment fund management appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives for a term of three years, one member who shall represent an environmental organization appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate for a term of four years, and one member who shall have experience in the finance or deployment of renewable energy appointed by the minority leader of the Senate for a term of four years. Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of four years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. The Governor shall appoint four members to the board as follows: Two for two years who shall have experience in the finance of renewable energy; one for four years who

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shall be a representative of a labor organization; and one who shall have experience in research and development or manufacturing of clean energy. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of four years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. The president of the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank shall be elected by the members of the board. The president of the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank and a member of the board of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, appointed by the chairperson of the corporation shall serve on the board in an ex-officio, nonvoting capacity. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the board. The board shall elect from its members a vice chairperson and such other officers as it deems necessary and shall adopt such bylaws and procedures it deems necessary to carry out its functions. The board may establish committees and subcommittees as necessary to conduct its business.

- (f) (1) The board shall issue annually a report to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection reviewing the activities of the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] <u>Connecticut Green Bank</u> in detail and shall provide a copy of such report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and commerce. The report shall include a description of the programs and activities undertaken during the reporting period jointly or in collaboration with the Energy Conservation and Load Management Funds established pursuant to section 16-245m.
- (2) The Clean Energy Fund shall be audited annually. Such audits shall be conducted with generally accepted auditing standards by independent certified public accountants certified by the State Board of Accountancy. Such accountants may be the accountants for the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority] Connecticut Green Bank.

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- 410 (3) Any entity that receives financing for a clean energy project from 411 the fund shall provide the board an annual statement, certified as 412 correct by the chief financial officer of the recipient of such financing, 413 setting forth all sources and uses of funds in such detail as may be 414 required by the authority of such project. The [Clean Energy Finance 415 and Investment Authority Connecticut Green Bank shall maintain any 416 such audits for not less than five years. Residential projects for 417 buildings with one to four dwelling units are exempt from this and 418 any other annual auditing requirements, except that residential 419 projects may be required to grant their utility companies' permission to 420 release their usage data to the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment 421 Authority] Connecticut Green Bank.
- (g) There shall be a joint committee of the Energy Conservation
  Management Board and the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment
  Authority] Connecticut Green Bank board of directors, as provided in
  subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 16-245m.
- (h) (1) (A) Wherever the term "Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority" is used in the following general statutes, the term "Connecticut Green Bank" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 1-79, 1-120, 1-124, 1-125, 7-233z, 16-244c, 16-245m, 16-245aa, 16-245bb, 16-245ee, 16-245ff, 16-245hh, 16-245kk, 16-245ll, 16-245mm, 16a-40d to 16a-40g, inclusive, as amended by this act, 16a-40l, 16a-40m, 22a-200c and 32-141.
- 433 (B) Wherever the term "authority" is used in the following general 434 statutes, the term "bank" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 16-245aa, 16-245ff, 16-245hh, 16-245kk, 16-245ll, 16-245mm and 16a-40e to 16a-40g, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- 437 (2) Wherever the term "Clean Energy Finance and Investment
  438 Authority" is used in any public or special act of 2014, the term
  439 "Connecticut Green Bank" shall be substituted in lieu thereof.
- 440 (3) The Legislative Commissioners' Office shall, in codifying the

- 441 provisions of this section, make such technical, grammatical and
- 442 punctuation changes as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this
- 443 section.
- Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 16-243p of the 2014 supplement to
- the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 446 thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 447 (a) An electric distribution company may recover its costs and
- investments that have been prudently incurred as well as its revenues
- lost resulting from the provisions of sections 16-1, 16-19ff, 16-50k, 16-
- 450 50x, 16-243h to 16-243q, inclusive, 16-244c, 16-244e, 16-244u, 16-245d,
- 451 16-245m, 16-245n, <u>as amended by this act</u>, 16-245z, [and] 16-262i <u>and</u>
- 452 16a-40m and section 21 of public act 05-1 of the June special session.
- 453 The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, after a hearing held
- 454 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, determine the appropriate
- 455 mechanism to obtain such recovery in a timely manner which
- 456 mechanism may be one or more of the following: (1) Approval of rates
- as provided in sections 16-19 and 16-19e; (2) the energy adjustment
- 458 clause as provided in section 16-19b; or (3) the federally mandated
- 459 congestion charges, as defined in section 16-1.
- Sec. 7. Section 16a-3f of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes
- is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 462 *from passage*):
- 463 On or after January 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Energy and
- 464 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the procurement
- 465 manager identified in subsection (1) of section 16-2, the Office of
- 466 Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, [may] shall, in
- 467 coordination with other states in the region of the regional
- 468 independent system operator, as defined in section 16-1, or on the
- commissioner's own, solicit proposals, in one solicitation or multiple
- 470 solicitations, from providers of Class I renewable energy sources, as
- defined in section 16-1, constructed on or after January 1, 2013. If the
- 472 commissioner finds such proposals to be in the interest of ratepayers

including, but not limited to, the delivered price of such sources, and consistent with the requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with section 22a-200a, and in accordance with the policy goals outlined in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy, adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d, the commissioner [may] shall select proposals from such resources to meet up to four per cent of the load distributed by the state's electric distribution companies. The commissioner [may] shall direct the electric distribution companies to enter into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity and environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, for periods of not more than twenty years. Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy sources procured under this section shall be sold in the New England Power Pool Generation Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the requirements of section 16-245a. Any such agreement shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, which review shall commence upon the filing of the signed power purchase agreement with the authority. The authority shall issue a decision on such agreement not later than thirty days after such filing. In the event the authority does not issue a decision within thirty days after such agreement is filed with the authority, the agreement shall be deemed approved. The net costs of any such agreement shall be recovered through a fully reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of electric distribution companies. Such costs may include reasonable costs incurred by electric distribution companies pursuant to this section.

Sec. 8. Section 16-345 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

As used in this chapter:

[(a)] (1) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or association, including a person engaged as a contractor by a public agency but excluding a public agency.

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- [(b)] (2) "Public agency" means the state or any political subdivision thereof, including any governmental agency.
- [(c)] (3) "Public utility" means the owner or operator of underground facilities for furnishing electric, gas, telephone, telegraph, communications, pipeline, sewage, water, community television antenna, steam, [or] traffic signal, fire signal or similar service, including a municipal or other public owner or operator. A public utility does not include the owner of facilities for utility service solely for such owner's private residence.
- [(d)] (4) "Central clearinghouse" means the [group of] <u>organization</u> organized and operated by public utilities [formed] pursuant to section 16-348, as amended by this act, for the purposes of receiving and giving notice of excavation, <u>discharge of explosives and demolition</u> activity within the state.
  - [(e)] (5) "Excavation" means an operation for the purposes of movement or removal of earth, rock or other materials in or on the ground, or otherwise disturbing the subsurface of the earth, by the use of powered or mechanized equipment, including but not limited to digging, blasting, auguring, back filling, test boring, drilling, pile driving, grading, plowing-in, hammering, pulling-in, trenching, [and] tunneling, dredging, reclamation processes and milling; excluding [the movement of earth by tools manipulated only by human or animal power and] the tilling of soil for agricultural purposes. For the purposes of this subdivision, dredging does not include dredging associated with the production and harvesting of aquaculture crops.
  - [(f)] (6) "Demolition" means the wrecking, razing, rending, moving or removing of any structure.
- [(g)] (7) "Damage" includes, but is not limited to, the substantial weakening of structural or lateral support of a utility [line] <u>facility such</u> that the continued integrity of such utility facility is imperiled, penetration or destruction of any utility [line] <u>facility</u> protective

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- coating, housing or other protective device or the severance, partial or complete, of any utility [line] facility.
- [(h)] (8) ["Approximate location of underground facilities"]
  "Approximate location of an underground utility facility" means a strip
  of land not more than three feet wide centered on the actual location of
  an underground utility facility or a strip of land extending not more
  than one and one-half feet on either side of the actual location of an
  underground [facilities] utility facility.
- Sec. 9. Section 16-346 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- No person, public agency or public utility shall engage in 548 549 excavation, [or] discharge of explosives [at or near the location of a 550 public utility underground facility or demolish a structure located at or 551 near or containing a public utility facility or demolition without 552 having first ascertained the location of all underground facilities of 553 public utilities in the area of such excavation, discharge or demolition 554 in the manner prescribed in this chapter and in such regulations as the 555 [authority] Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall adopt pursuant 556 to section 16-357.
- Sec. 10. Section 16-347 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- A public utility shall [file] register with the [Public Utilities 559 560 Regulatory Authority the location of its] central clearinghouse the 561 geographic areas in which it owns or operates underground facilities, 562 [except facilities for storm sewers,] by reference to a standard [grid] 563 mapping system, to be established by the [authority] central 564 clearinghouse, and the title, address and telephone number of its 565 representative designated to receive the notice required by section 16-566 349, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 11. Section 16-348 of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

The public utilities of the state shall, under the direction of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, organize and operate a central clearinghouse within the state for receiving and giving the notices required by section 16-349, as amended by this act. The authority shall apportion the cost of this service equitably among the public utilities, [for those underground facilities registered with the authority, as provided in section 16-347, except sanitary sewer or water facilities owned or operated by] except a city, town or borough that owns or operates only a sanitary sewer or water facilities.

Sec. 12. Section 16-349 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

Except as provided in section 16-352, as amended by this act, a person, public agency or public utility responsible for excavating, [or] discharging explosives [at or near the location of public utility facilities] or demolishing [a structure containing a public utility facility] shall notify the central clearinghouse of such proposed excavation, discharge or demolition [, orally or in writing, at least two full days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, but not more than thirty days before commencing such excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives in the manner prescribed by regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-357. Such notice shall include the name, address and telephone number of the [entity giving notice, the name of the person, public agency or public utility performing the [work] excavation, discharge of explosives or demolition and the date, location and type of excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives. The central clearinghouse shall immediately transmit such information to the public utilities whose facilities may be affected. In the event the proposed excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives has not [commenced] been completed within [thirty days] the allotted time frame prescribed by regulation of such notification, or the excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives will be expanded outside of the location originally specified in such notification, the person, public

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agency or public utility responsible for such excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives shall again notify the central clearinghouse [at least two full days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, but not more than thirty days before commencing or expanding such excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives] in the manner prescribed by regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-357.

Sec. 13. Section 16-351 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

A public utility receiving notice pursuant to section 16-349, as amended by this act, shall inform the person, public agency or public utility proposing to excavate, discharge explosives or demolish [a structure] of the approximate location of its underground facilities in the area in such manner as will enable such person, public agency or public utility to establish the [precise] actual location of the underground facilities, and shall provide such other assistance in establishing the [precise] actual location of the underground facilities as the authority may require by [regulation] regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-357. Such person, public agency or public utility shall designate the area of the proposed excavation, demolition or discharge of explosives as the authority may prescribe by [regulation] regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-357. The public utility receiving notice shall mark the approximate location of its underground facilities in such manner and using such methods, including color coding, as the authority may prescribe by [regulation] regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-357. If the [precise] actual location of the underground facilities cannot be established, the person, public agency or public utility shall so notify the public utility whose facilities may be affected, which shall provide such further assistance as may be needed to determine the [precise] actual location of the underground facilities in advance of the proposed excavation, discharge of explosives or demolition.

633 Sec. 14. Section 16-352 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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- 634 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- (a) In case of emergency involving danger to life, health or property or which requires immediate correction to continue the operation of a major industrial plant, or to assure the continuity of public utility service, excavation or demolition without explosives may be made without [the two day] notice required by section 16-349, as amended by this act, provided notice thereof [by telephone] is given as soon as reasonably possible.
- (b) In case of an emergency involving an immediate and substantial danger of death or serious personal injury, explosives may be discharged if notice thereof is given at any time before discharge.
- Sec. 15. Section 16-354 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

A person, public agency or public utility responsible for excavating, discharging explosives or demolition shall exercise reasonable care when working in proximity to the underground facilities of any public utility and shall comply with such safety standards and other requirements as the authority shall prescribe by [regulation] regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-357. If the facilities are likely to be exposed, such support shall be provided as may be reasonably necessary for protection of the facilities. If [gas facilities are likely to be exposed] excavation is within the approximate location of facilities containing combustible or hazardous fluids or gases, only hand digging or soft digging shall be employed. As used in this section, "soft digging" means a nonmechanical and nondestructive process used to excavate and evacuate soils at a controlled rate, using high pressure water or air jet to break up the soil, often in conjunction with a high power vacuum unit to extract the soil without damaging the facilities.

Sec. 16. Section 16-355 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

When any contact is made with or any damage is suspected or done to any underground facility of a public utility, the person, public agency or public utility responsible for the operations causing the contact, suspected damage or damage shall immediately notify the public utility whose facilities have been affected, which shall dispatch its own personnel as soon as reasonably possible to inspect the underground facility and, if necessary, effect temporary or permanent repairs. If a serious electrical short is occurring or if dangerous fluids or gas are escaping from a broken line, the person, public agency or public utility responsible for the operations causing the damage shall alert all persons within the danger area and take all feasible steps to insure the public safety pending the arrival of repair personnel. As used in this section, "contact" includes, without limitation, the striking, scraping or denting, however slight, of any underground utility facility, [the structural or lateral support of an underground utility line and including any underground utility [line] facility protective coating, housing or other protective device. "Contact" does not include damage, as defined in section 16-345, as amended by this act.

Sec. 17. Section 16-356 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

Any person, public agency or public utility which the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority determines, after notice and opportunity for a hearing as provided in section 16-41, to have failed to comply with any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under section 16-357 shall forfeit and pay to the state a civil penalty of not more than forty thousand dollars, provided any violation involving the failure of a public utility to mark [the] any approximate location of an underground [facilities] utility facility correctly or within the timeframes prescribed by regulation, which violation did not result in any property damage or personal injury and was not the result of an act of gross negligence on the part of the public utility, shall not result in a civil penalty of more than one thousand dollars. Notwithstanding

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698 the provisions contained in subsection (d) of section 16-41, the person, 699 public agency or public utility receiving a notice of violation pursuant 700 to subsection (c) of section 16-41 shall have thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice in which to deliver to the authority a written 702 application for a hearing.

Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may, upon application of a water company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, order such water company to extend its system to serve properties that the authority determines are served by a deficient well system, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-262n of the general statutes, as amended by this act, if the authority determines that the net costs of extending water service are reasonable. The cost recovery, rates and charges of such extension shall be treated in the same manner as provided for acquisitions pursuant to section 16-2620 or 16-262s of the general statutes.

Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 16-262n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) As used in this section, sections 16-2620 to 16-262q, inclusive, and section 16-262s, "water company" means either (1) a corporation, association, company, association, ioint stock partnership, municipality, other entity or person, or lessee thereof, owning, leasing, maintaining, operating, managing or controlling any pond, lake, reservoir, stream, well or distributing plant or system employed for the purpose of supplying water to not less than two service connections or twenty-five persons, or (2) a deficient well system serving existing properties within a defined geographic area with not less than twenty-five persons served by private wells that (A) do not meet public health standards for potable water, (B) have had funding discontinued for filters provided pursuant to subsection (a) of section 22a-471 to respond to documented groundwater contamination, (C) are otherwise unable to serve the existing properties with adequate

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water quality, volume or pressure, or (D) limit the on-site resolution of documented wastewater disposal issues in the system.

Sec. 20. (*Effective from passage*) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall study the feasibility of allowing a nonprofit entity to aggregate electric meters that are billable to such entity. The study shall include, but not be limited to, potential costs and benefits to electric ratepayers for allowing such aggregation. On or before January 1, 2015, the authority shall report the findings of such study and any recommended statutory changes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2014	16a-48(g)
Sec. 2	from passage	New section
Sec. 3	from passage	16a-40g(a)
Sec. 4	from passage	New section
Sec. 5	from passage	16-245n
Sec. 6	from passage	16-243p(a)
Sec. 7	from passage	16a-3f
Sec. 8	October 1, 2015	16-345
Sec. 9	October 1, 2015	16-346
Sec. 10	October 1, 2015	16-347
Sec. 11	October 1, 2015	16-348
Sec. 12	October 1, 2015	16-349
Sec. 13	October 1, 2015	16-351
Sec. 14	October 1, 2015	16-352
Sec. 15	October 1, 2015	16-354
Sec. 16	October 1, 2015	16-355
Sec. 17	October 1, 2015	16-356
Sec. 18	from passage	New section
Sec. 19	from passage	16-262n(a)
Sec. 20	from passage	New section

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## Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In sections 3(a)(10) and 4, the "Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority" was changed to the "Connecticut Green Bank" for internal consistency. In section 5(d)(1)(C), the first sentence was revised and the second sentence was added, for clarity and statutory consistency.

**ET** Joint Favorable Subst.